

*Please amend paragraph 2 on page 11, beginning on line 21 as follows:*

The above described functional elements are implemented in various computing environments. For example, the present invention may be implemented on a conventional IBM PC or equivalent, multi-nodal system (e.g., LAN) or networking system (e.g., Internet, WWW). All programming, GUIs, display panels and dialog box templates, and data related thereto are stored in computer memory, static or dynamic, and may be retrieved by the user in any of: conventional computer storage, display (i.e., CRT) and/or hardcopy (i.e., printed) formats. The programming of the present invention may be implemented by one of skill in the art of general, graphics or object-oriented programming.

In the Claims:

(As per 37 CFR 1.121 amended claims are provided below in clean form with marked-up versions in Appendix B)

Please amend:

1. (Once Amended) A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user comprising the following steps:

retaining user preferences;

retaining a list of possible contacts; said list comprising at least identifying information and available images of said contacts;

automatically searching said list of possible contacts to select a potential contact based on said user preferences,

retaining potential contacts selected during said search, and

displaying to the user an available image or other identifying information of a potential contact.

3. (Once Amended) A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said user preferences comprise any of: professional or personal contact, automatic preference on initiating the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, and maximum number of candidates to select.

5. (Once Amended) A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said searching step is initiated automatically by a time-based reference in the user preferences.

10. (Once Amended) A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said displaying step further comprises insertion of said available image or identifying information into a GUI.

14. (Once Amended) A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, said system comprising:

user preferences stored in computer storage;  
a contact list stored in computer storage, said contact list comprising at least identifying information and available images of said contacts;  
a manual request unit;  
a time-based request unit providing an invocation for time-based automatic searching;  
a display module;  
a search module, said search module determining the candidates to be selected;  
a request processor, said processor detecting an invocation output from said manual

request unit or said time-based request unit and initiating said search module to select one or more possible contacts, and

wherein said selected candidates are stored in computer storage and processed to display,

*B12* by said display module, said selected contact image or information to the user.

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16. (Once Amended) A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein said user preferences comprise any of: professional or personal contact, *B13* automatic preference on initiating the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, and maximum number of candidates to select.

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*B14* 22. (Once Amended) A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein said displaying further comprises insertion of said available image or identifying information into a GUI.

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26. (Once Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact comprising computer programmable code implementing:

retaining default or user selected preferences;

*B15* retrieving a list of possible contacts; said list comprising at least identifying information and available images of said contacts;

selecting a number of possible candidates to be presented;

identifying a specific method of possible candidate selection;

automatically initiating a search for one or more possible candidates based on said user preferences, available candidates and method of selection, and